

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 CPR-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 NSC-05 SY-05 /059 W
----- 070704

R 011545Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3118

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 3933

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA SZ

SUBJ: SWISS SENIOR LEVEL TRAVEL

REF: STATE 180074

1. SECRETARY GENERAL WEITNAUER OF THE FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT TOLD ME LAST NIGHT THAT HE INTENDS TO TRAVEL TO NEW YORK IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS. HE EXPECTS TO REMAIN FOR AT LEAST A FEW DAYS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE WILL ALSO COME DOWN TO WASHINGTON FOR A DAY OR TWO TO TALK WITH HOHL AND OTHER EMBASSY STAFFERS.

2. I OFFERED TO ARRANGE MEETINGS WITH DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIALS, BUT HE DECLINED WITH THANKS SAYING THAT HE WAS COMING THIS TIME "STRICTLY INFORMALLY AND UNOFFICIALLY". HE PLANS TO VISIT WASHINGTON IN A MORE OFFICIAL WAY EARLY NEXT YEAR, AND THEN HOPES TO VISIT AND CONFER WITH US PERIODICALLY. WEITNAUER DID THINK HOHL MIGHT ORGANIZE A LUNCH OR SOME SORT OF INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER AT HIS HOME TO WHICH HE HOPED A FEW DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS MIGHT COME.

3. WEITNAUER SAID FEDERAL COUNCILOR GRABER IS ALSO THINKING OF VISITING THE UNITED STATES NEXT SPRING. GRABER HAD TENTATIVELY PLANNED A TRIP TO THE USSR EARLY NEXT YEAR, BUT NOW PREFERS TO DEFER THAT TRIP AND COME TO THE U S FIRST.

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4. REGARDING THE SOVIET TRIP POSTPONEMENT, WEITNAUER
SAID THE SWISS PUBLIC "WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND" A FRIENDLY
TRIP TO MOSCOW IN THE WAKE OF THE JEANMAIRE AFFAIR.
DAVIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BERN03933
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760332-0715
From: BERN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197609103/aaaadknv.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 180074
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWISS SENIOR LEVEL TRAVEL
TAGS: PFOR, SZ, US, UNGA, (GRABER, PIERRE), (WEITNAUER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006